

AMENDMENT(S) TO THE CLAIMS

20. (previously amended) A composite cable unit, comprising:
an optical sub-unit, said optical sub-unit including a tube surrounding at least one optical fiber and strength members or filaments that are operative to at least partially de-couple said at least one optical fiber from said tube;
an electrical sub-unit; and
said optical and electrical sub-units being removably connected at a medial portion between said sub-units by a common jacket material.
21. (original) The composite cable unit of claim 20, said at least one optical fiber being tight buffered.
22. (original) The composite cable unit of claim 20, said at least one optical fiber including at least one periodic refractive index therein.
23. (original) The composite cable unit of claim 20, said at least one electrical conductor being part of a coaxial cable.
24. (original) The composite cable unit of claim 20, said common jacket material including a ligature connecting said sub-units.
25. (original) The composite cable unit of claim 20, said sub-units being separably welded together.
26. (original) The composite cable unit of claim 20, said common jacket material including at least one identification means.
27. (original) The composite cable unit of claim 20, a controlled bond being formed between said common jacket material

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and said at least one electrical conductor.

28. (previously amended) A composite cable unit, comprising:
an optical sub-unit, said optical sub-unit including a tube surrounding at least one tight buffered optical fiber and strength members or filaments that are operative to at least partially de-couple said at least one optical fiber from said tube;

an electrical sub-unit; and

said optical and electrical sub-units being removably connected at a medial portion between said sub-units by a common jacket material.

29. (original) The composite cable unit of claim 28, said at least one optical fiber including at least one periodic refractive index therein.

30. (original) The composite cable unit of claim 28, said at least one electrical conductor being part of a coaxial cable.

31. (original) The composite cable unit of claim 28, said common jacket material including a ligature connecting said sub-units.

32. (original) The composite cable unit of claim 28, said sub-units being separably welded together.

33. (original) The composite cable unit of claim 28, said common jacket material including at least one identification means.

34. (original) The composite cable unit of claim 28, a controlled bond being formed between said common jacket material and said at least one electrical conductor.

35. (previously amended) A composite cable unit, comprising:
an optical sub-unit, said optical sub-unit including a tube surrounding at least one optical fiber and strength members or filaments that are operative to at least partially de-couple said at least one optical fiber from said tube;

an electrical sub-unit, said electrical sub-unit being a portion of a coaxial cable; and

said optical and electrical sub-units being removably connected at a medial portion between said sub-units by a common jacket material.

36. (original) The composite cable unit of claim 35, said at least one optical fiber being tight buffered.

37. (original) The composite cable unit of claim 35, said common jacket material including a ligature connecting said sub-units.

38. (original) The composite cable unit of claim 35, said common jacket material including at least one identification means.

39. (original) The composite cable unit of claim 35, a controlled bond being formed between said common jacket material and a portion of said coaxial cable.